

DRINKING WATER AMENDMENTS

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Scott D. Sandall

House Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill modifies the Safe Drinking Water Act to address fees.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ requires the Department of Environmental Quality to establish a fee schedule;
- ▶ outlines requirements related to the fee schedule;
- ▶ allows for fees to be set to establish a financial incentive to comply with certain criteria;
- ▶ provides for the collection of fees;
- ▶ provides that the fees are treated as dedicated credits; and
- ▶ requires monitoring of fees.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

19-4-116, Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:



28 Section 1. Section **19-4-116** is enacted to read:

29 **19-4-116. Fee schedule.**

30 (1) (a) In accordance with Section [63J-1-504](#), the department shall establish a fee
31 schedule for the regulation of public water systems in the state.

32 (b) To create the fee schedule described in Subsection (1)(a), the department shall:

33 (i) complete a review of program costs and indirect costs of regulating public water
34 systems in the state, after consulting with industry, local governments, and special service
35 districts;

36 (ii) use the findings from the review completed under Subsection (1)(b)(i) to create the
37 fee schedule; and

38 (iii) evaluate other sources of funding to support the regulation of public water systems
39 in the state.

40 (c) The fee schedule described in Subsection (1)(a) shall:

41 (i) implement an annual fee on a public water system in the state for the supply of
42 water for human consumption and other domestic uses to an end user, on a per-connection
43 basis;

44 (ii) implement a reasonable fee for plan review;

45 (iii) implement a reasonable fee for a public water system sanitary survey;

46 (iv) provide for reasonable and timely oversight by the department; and

47 (v) adequately meet the needs of public water systems and the department, including
48 enabling the department to employ qualified personnel to appropriately oversee public drinking
49 water regulation.

50 (d) The fee schedule described in this Subsection (1) may include fees that provide
51 financial incentives:

52 (i) for a public water system that is not a community water system if the public water
53 system complies with Section [19-4-114](#); and

54 (ii) for a community water system that meets all of the following criteria:

55 (A) the community water system installs water meters on the residential connections in
56 the community water system;

57 (B) the community water system adopts tiered water rates;

58 (C) the community water system creates a drinking water master plan report within the

59 previous 10 years from when the fee is imposed; and

60 (D) the community water system complies with Section [19-4-114](#).

61 (2) A supplier shall collect the fees established by Subsection (1) from the public water
62 system's water users.

63 (3) A supplier shall submit payment of the fee established by Subsection (1) to the
64 department:

65 (a) in accordance with a schedule provided by the department; and

66 (b) using a form provided by the department.

67 (4) The department shall retain the fees as dedicated credits and shall use the fees to
68 administer the regulation of public water systems.

69 (5) The Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall monitor fees collected under this
70 section.

71 Section 2. **Effective date.**

72 This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.